



## Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill leaves a lasting legacy

Photo by Spc. Elizabeth Jones, Photojournalist, State PAO

**M**aj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, standing with his wife Keren, mirrors his pose during the unveiling of his portrait. On June 1 he will retire after more than 40 years of service in the Guard and the last five as Adjutant General for Maryland. He will be missed and we wish him well in his retirement.

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**Martin O'Malley**  
Governor

**Anthony G. Brown**  
Lt. Governor

**Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill**  
Adjutant General

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT:

More than 40 years ago, I took an oath to support and defend the Constitutions of the United States of America and the State of Maryland. A lot has happened to our state and our nation since I began learning the skills of an American fighter pilot. I was blessed to be associated with the men and women of the Maryland Military Department.

As I pass command of the Maryland Military Department to Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins, I want to thank a group of people who have made my time as Adjutant General one of which I can be proud as I step into retirement. I want to thank Brig. Gen. Ed Leacock, assistant adjutant general for Army for his leadership of the Maryland Army National Guard. He has led the Army Guard through a tough period of organizational transition and oversaw the largest deployment of Maryland National Guard Soldiers since World War II. He successfully completed a deployment as Deputy Task Force Commander of Task Force Guantanamo guarding captured insurgents in Cuba.

I want to thank Brig. Gen. Charlie Morgan, assistant adjutant general for Air for his leadership of the Maryland Air National Guard. Under his leadership, the Air Guard deployed both the 104th Fighter Squadron and the 135th Airlift Squadron to bases in the Middle East. Despite the actions of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, we will keep the airlift mission. Their tremendous success is a result of his emphasis on leadership and training.

John Droneberg, director of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) brought state emergency management from a reactive organization to a proactive one. He oversaw the agency as it attained national accreditation and placed Maryland as one of the best prepared states in the country. Under his watch, MEMA created the Maryland Joint Operations Center which now functions as the state's 24-hour watch center.

Brig. Gen. Courtney Wilson and his predecessors Brig. Gen. Fred Smalkin and Brig. Gen. Ben Lucas of the Maryland Defense Force gave purpose and organization to a previously underutilized volunteer organization. MDFF now provides professional support services to the Maryland Military Department and has brought great credit to itself and to Maryland. Other states are asking to see the "Maryland Model." As an example, MDFF's medical teams were dispatched to Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. They organized and operated six medical clinics which treated almost 7,000 people in the three weeks of their deployment. They were the first such volunteer organization to accept a mission outside of Maryland.

In thinking back over the last 40 years and more precisely the last five years, I am humbled by this department's accomplishments. The thing that I believe will characterize my time is readiness...readiness of this organization to prepare and execute the dual federal-state missions. We trained our Soldiers and Airmen for the jobs they were expected to do in combat as best we could with the resources and time available. Our state employees, many of whom are responsible for coordinating the use of state resources during emergencies and disasters have performed their missions flawlessly. And I would be remiss if I did not mention our uniformed volunteers of the MDDE. My admiration and respect for all of these Marylanders cannot be adequately expressed and I could not be more proud of them.

Brig. Gen. Jim Adkins is an old friend and a leader who cares deeply about the people in this department. He previously served as chief of staff and assistant adjutant general for state operations previously in the Military Department. I am leaving him a department that is ready to handle the missions that come our way. I have every confidence that you will accomplish your missions for him as you did for me. May God Bless and keep all of you.

Godspeed!

Bruce F. Tuxill  
Major General, MDANG  
The Adjutant General



## Governor Visits National Guard Soldiers Before Deployment

Governor Martin O'Malley joined federal, state and local officials March 24 to say farewell to members of the 224th Area Support Medical Company of the Maryland Army National Guard in a ceremony at the Private Henry Costin Armory in Laurel, Md. Approximately 80 Soldiers are mobilizing for deployment to Iraq.

"We are deeply indebted to these Citizen-Soldiers and their families for their sacrifices in the defense of our nation and state," said Governor O'Malley. "They are well-

trained, well-equipped, well-led, and I have every confidence in their ability to perform their mission."

The Soldiers departed for Fort Lewis, Washington where they receive additional training before deployment to Iraq. In Iraq, they will provide direct medical support. This includes retrieval and stabilization of the wounded, immediate triage care, and pass-on care to medical-surgical teams. They also will conduct basic dental, physiological, and psychological care.



Photos courtesy of the Maryland Governor's office



# Maryland National Guard Announces Airman of the Year

**O**n Feb 12, the Maryland Air National Guard announced the winners of its annual Airman of the Year competition for 2007 as follows:

In the Airman category: Senior Airman Kyle J. Greene, of Pylesville, Md. Greene is a member of the 135th Aerial Port Flight.

In the Non-Commissioned Officer category: Tech. Sgt. Amy L. Franklin, of Bowie, Md. Franklin is a member of the 175th Medical Group.

In the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer category: Chief Master Sgt. David L. Davies, of Baltimore. Davies is a member of the 175th Maintenance Squadron.

"We are extremely fortunate to have such truly outstanding young men and women serving in the Maryland Air National Guard," said Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, adjutant general of Maryland. "Day in and day out, these citizen-airmen are serving their nation at home and abroad and in our local communities. They truly are

making a difference."

This year's winners were chosen from amongst a field of 24 nominees from units throughout the Maryland Air National Guard. Nominees were recognized at a ceremony held Feb. 10 at Warfield Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Md.

In addition to the winners of the Airman of the Year competition, the Maryland Air National Guard also announced the selectees for First Sergeant of the Year

and Honor Guard Member of the Year. Senior Master Sgt. Michele L. Vogel, of Baltimore, was selected as First Sergeant of the Year. Vogel is first sergeant for Headquarters, 175th Wing. Master Sgt. Steven C. Mooney, of Linthicum, Md., was selected as Honor Guard Member of the Year. Mooney is a member of the 135th Aerial Port Flight.



**Chief Master Sgt. David L. Davies**  
175th Maintenance Squadron



**Tech. Sgt. Amy L. Franklin**  
175th Medical Group



**Senior Airman Kyle J. Greene**  
135th Aerial Port Flight



**Master Sgt. Steven C. Mooney**  
135th Aerial Port Flight



**Senior Master Sgt. Michele L. Vogel**  
Headquarters, 175th Wing

**SONOITA, Ariz. -- Maryland Air National Guard Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Scott, from Baltimore, Md., with the 175th Civil Engineer Squadron cuts pieces of steel, Feb. 14, for use as temporary vehicle barriers along the Southwestern border. Scott is part of Task Force Diamondback, the engineering component of Operation Jump Start – Arizona, the two-year, presidentially mandated mission placing National Guardsmen alongside agents of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Border Patrol. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Benjamin Cossel, Operation Jump Start – Arizona Public Affairs)**



## Maryland Air National Guard Unit Returns from Iraq

**O**n March 7, the Maryland Air National Guard welcomed home 27 members of the 175th Security Forces Squadron from their six-month deployment to Sather Air Base at Baghdad International Airport, Iraq.

The Guardsmen were activated in July 2007 and attended pre-deployment training at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., before deploying to Baghdad. Since that time, the unit has been conducting air base defense and security missions as well as protective service operations for visiting dignitaries, including the Secretary of State and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"The 175th Security Forces Squadron has been the workhorse of the Maryland National Guard and has made us

proud time and time again," said Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, the adjutant general of Maryland. "Their service and sacrifice – as well as the sacrifices of their families and employers – are what keep this nation and this state safe and secure."

This was the squadron's twelfth significant overseas deployment since Sept. 11, 2001, and their second deployment to Iraq. In addition, the unit deployed a task force to Louisiana in 2005 to assist in relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

A patriotic crowd of family, friends and other well-wishers were on hand at Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport to greet the returning Airmen.





*Tech. Sgt. Charles Doran drives on with his civil disturbance mission after being sprayed in the eyes with pepper spray during non-lethal weapons training at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation in April 2008.*

# Maryland National Guard Reaction Force Prepares for Preakness

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Kristofer Baumgarnter, State PAO

The Maryland National Guard conducted non lethal weapons training in April at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation in Reisterstown, Md. in preparation for an upcoming security assistance mission at the Preakness Stakes.

Instructors from the 70th Regiment conducted a five-day Non Lethal Individual Weapons Operators Course (NIWOC) for members of Maryland's National Guard Reaction Force (NGRF) at the new Warrior Training Center at Camp Fretterd. Training focused on the Rules of Force and crowd control tactics including implementing non lethal weapons such as the TASER X26 and Oleoresin Capsicum (pepper spray).

Due to the state's proximity to Washington, D.C. and major ports, the National Guard is taking steps to increase its NGRF preparedness through this type of training. "(NIWOC) is the first state level non lethal operators course of its kind in the National Guard," said Maj. Amy Bennett, Warrior Training Center officer in charge.

The NGRF will apply its new knowledge on May 17 as it supports the high profile Preakness Stakes horse race at Pimlico Race Course in

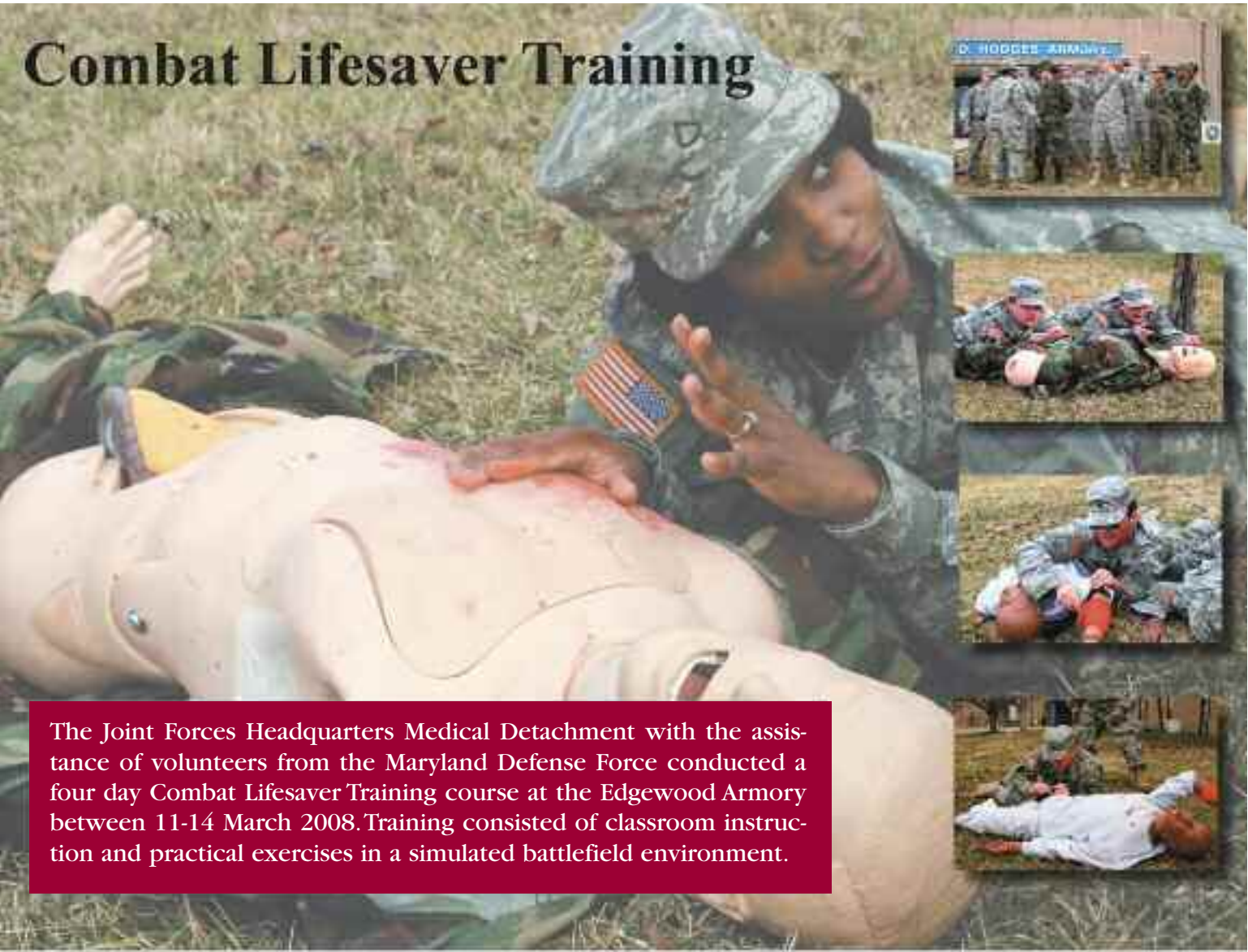


*Sgt. 1st Class Antivone Young, 1729 Field Support Maintenance Co., takes down a simulated rioter during non-lethal weapons training while fighting the effects of pepper spray. The April training at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation was in preparation for an upcoming security assistance mission at the Preakness Stakes horse race.*

Baltimore. The Preakness Stakes is the second jewel in the Triple Crown of thoroughbred racing and is traditionally held the third Saturday in May. A record crowd of 121,263 attended the race in 2007 becoming the largest crowd to see a sporting event in Maryland history. As in years past, the Maryland National Guard will provide additional security supporting local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

"The National Guard is in a unique role to respond to state and federal needs. Regardless of our status, the non-lethal weapons training will provide additional options to deal with tense situations," said Lt. Col. Adam Flasch, commander of the NGRF. "The skills my soldiers learned during this training will ensure that our citizens can rely on the National Guard to respond effectively to any emergency."

Each state and territory has a National Guard Reaction Force capable of responding in support of state and local requests. In Maryland, the assignment rotates annually among Army National Guard battalions. The NGRF may be augmented with other units to enhance capability based on the situation.



The Joint Forces Headquarters Medical Detachment with the assistance of volunteers from the Maryland Defense Force conducted a four day Combat Lifesaver Training course at the Edgewood Armory between 11-14 March 2008. Training consisted of classroom instruction and practical exercises in a simulated battlefield environment.

*Combat Lifesaver Training Photos by Staff Sgt. Kristofer Baumgartner and layout design by Spc. Elizabeth Jones, State PAO*

# Dundalk Armory Renovation

Photo courtesy of Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger.



On Friday, March 7, 2008, during a tour of the facility, Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger announced that \$829,000 in federal funds will be put toward a much needed renovation of the Dundalk Armory.

The facility has a leaking roof, inadequate electrical systems, insufficient ventilation, deteriorating classrooms, and a sub-standard kitchen. The firing range is currently shut down for lead testing and the locker rooms are located in a separate building from the showers and latrines. The money will pay for plans for an extensive renovation that will include new classrooms, a firing range, showers, and a kitchen to improve the morale, retention, and readiness of the personnel stationed at this facility.



# The 58th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Returns From Iraq!



About 1,300 Soldiers recently returned from places such as Baghdad and Mosul in Iraq. Missions ranged from command and administrative support to providing security and combat logistics patrols. These units' armories are located in Towson, Annapolis, Glen Burnie, Dundalk, Frederick, Easton, and White Oak.







# Joint Reintegration

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Howard Hodges, 29th MPAD

workplace, and other hometown connections – thus the name for a program addressing these concerns: The Maryland National Guard Reintegration Initiative.

Under the Governor's leadership, a coalition of Federal, State, County and local agencies, along with the Maryland Military Department, have been networked to assist combat veterans and their families through a series of briefings held at military installations as well as local hotels.

The Reintegration Training will prove its value if it follows the trends that show early intervention alleviates follow-on costs as measured in dollars, health, and productivity of veterans. A June 2007 Department of Defense study showed that 49% of National Guard Soldiers suffered from some sort of psychological problems and with up to a quarter also having significant medical issues a year later. And their education is impacted as well, with nearly a third of Soldiers dropping out after their first semester back to college. Additionally, Soldiers' marriages are affected with over a third reporting relationship problems and 20% contemplating divorce. The Reintegration Training targets these concerns

and many other areas as well through training, counseling and available programs.

Although it is required for all Soldiers to attend, other members of the Soldiers support network are encouraged to attend, so spouses, significant others, siblings, children and even close friends have been invited. Many have found the program helpful because of the topics covered by the briefings and workshops, such as medical concerns, including combat stress and depression; relationships and family life; financial interests; anger management; single Soldier issues; substance abuse; coping skills; higher education programs; job opportunities; spiritual assistance, and the many benefits available to combat veterans.

The program has five phases: a reunion briefing for families at home (and for Soldiers in Iraq) about 30 days before they return, another briefing for Soldiers at Fort Dix upon their return, then a day long workshop for Soldiers and families about 30-45 days afterwards, then another workshop coupled with a job fair about 30-45 days later, and lastly, a weekend that includes a Post Deployment Health Re-Assessment (PDHRA) at the VA Medical Center capped by a Freedom Salute "Welcome Home" ceremony.

With over 1,200 Maryland Army National Guardsmen from the 58th Brigade Combat Team returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom, the State and Federal government, along with the US Army, wants to assure that these military personnel are "reintegrated" back into civilian life with their families,

and many other areas as well through training, counseling and available programs.

## Honor Guard Earns Coin

*Brig. Gen. Edward Leacock, assistant adjutant general for Army presents coins to the Maryland National Guard Honor Guard on behalf of Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, National Guard Bureau chief. The Honor Guard received the coins for exceptional performance of duty at the funeral service of Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Phillip Sherman in March, 2008.*



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kristofer Baumgartner

## THE LECTERN

By Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee State Chaplain

In a world where conflict, ethnic strife, war, an killing often include elements of religious intolerance, it is fortunate to live in a State and Nation where the accommodation of religious practice is a protected right of every citizen. From inception our State and Nation have sought to ensure that every citizen is able to practice their faith freely according to the dictates of their heart. We also recognize that this right to free exercise of religion is crucial to the well-being of our citizen-soldiers who protect our freedoms.

During this time of persistent conflict the spiritual care and religious support of all our Guard members and their families is an essential component of resiliency for our Maryland National Guard force. Part of the support provided throughout the deployment

cycle is Chaplain support. Currently the Maryland Army and Air National Guard and Maryland Defense Force Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants are woven into the fabric of support for nearly 1400 soldiers and families participating in the "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon" re-integration program. The Maryland Military Department recognizes that spirituality is a key component to successful re-integration from deployment and the resiliency necessary to continue as healthy families and a ready force for future State or Federal missions.

Maryland National Guard and Defense Force Chaplains and Assistants offer religious services and supplies; spiritual care, counseling, education and direction; referrals to local 'Partners in Care' congregations; Marriage Enrichment Retreats; and referrals to Federal,

State and community based support systems as necessary. During the re-integration events Chaplains and Assistants provide information about services available, ministry of presence, and counseling as referrals as appropriate.

To paraphrase President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Americans should all enjoy the essential freedoms of freedom from fear, freedom from want, freedom of speech, and freedom of religion. As our citizen-warriors continue to deploy in defense of those freedoms, Maryland Army and Air National Guard and Maryland Defense Force Chaplains and Assistants will continue to support them as they are deployed and when they return, so both warrior and family can find strength, solace and support from their faith.

## Chaplains Convene

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Ron Sollod, Chaplains Office

The Maryland National Guard recently held a training conference for the Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants. The training was held at the Weinberg Center at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation in Reisterstown, Maryland.

The theme for the conference was "Reintegration". The conference centered on the return of our servicemembers from combat. There were many presentations on the issues facing the Soldiers as they return to their home life.

Some of the subjects covered included Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Combat Stress. The "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon - Reintegration" program, was presented by Lt. Col. Michael Gafney, the officer in charge of the initiative. The topic covered the many aspects of issues that Soldiers might incur as they return to their home life. There may be as many as 30% to 40% of soldiers and/or family members that may need assistance. The assistance needed can range from basic family counseling to the

other extreme of treatment for PTSD or ACS.

There was also a presentation from one of the attendees, Chaplain (Capt.) Rebekah Montgomery, on the first Military World Religions Conference which was held at Ft. Jackson, SC in November 2007.

Other subject matter included how the Maryland National Guard can support the youth and children of Soldiers, who

may also need some assistance dealing with the issues of their soldier coming home after more that 12 months away.

The conference discussed a preliminary plan for the return of approximately 1,300 Soldiers of the 58th Infantry Brigade Combat Team who were part of the largest contingent of Soldiers from the Maryland National Guard to return from combat since World War II.





# Maryland Defense Force Public Information Officer Named To Top Spot

Courtesy of the Department of Defense

Robert Hastings was appointed Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs on 10 March, 2008. He serves as staff advisor and assistant to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense for public information, internal information, and community relations as well as information training and audiovisual matters in support of DoD activities, leading a worldwide public affairs community of some 3,800 military and civilian personnel.

Mr. Hastings is a former U.S. Army officer with more than 20 years experience as a Master Army Aviator and Public Affairs Officer. His assignments include command of an Apache-equipped Air Cavalry Troop and a Blackhawk-equipped Air Assault Company, as well as Public Affairs

duties in Germany, Eastern Europe, Iraq, and Bosnia. He also served as an instructor with the Defense Information School Public Affairs Officer Course.

Following retirement from the Army in 1999, Mr. Hastings served as Chief of Staff and Vice President, Communications for BAE Systems, Inc., a \$15 billion defense and aerospace company employing more than 50,000 employees in the U.S., U.K., Sweden, Israel and South Africa.

Mr. Hastings is active in numerous community and professional associations, and has served on the board of directors for several non-profit organizations. He is a member of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC), an accredited member (APR) of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), and

serves as a member of the Board of Advisors for the Marlin Fitzwater Center for Communications and as the professional advisor for the Public Relations Student Society at Hood College. He is a winner of PRSA's Silver Anvil Award of Excellence and IABC's Gold Quill Award for Excellence in Communications Management.

A native of Ocean City, Maryland, Mr. Hastings earned a Bachelor's Degree in Government Studies and History from the University of Maryland in Heidelberg, Germany, and has completed executive studies at the Wharton School of Business and the University of Michigan.

Mr. Hastings and his wife Leigh reside in suburban Maryland and have two college-age children.



# Maryland Army Guard Aviators Prepare for Active Hurricane Season

Story and photos by Capt. Rick Breitenfeldt, State PAO

EDGEWOOD, Md. – Experts are predicting a “well above average” hurricane season for 2008, and the Maryland Army National Guard stands ready to respond.

In addition to attending quarterly flood rescue meetings and continually honing their skills as professional Soldiers by practicing lifesaving rescue techniques, Maryland Army National Guard aviators are now learning how to use a new piece of communications equipment developed specifically to talk to local first responders on the ground and government officials during an emergency.

This new multi-band radio, known as Project 25 or P-25, enables Maryland Army Guard aviators to talk to just about any emergency first responder or agency during a crisis using three different bands or frequencies that are standard in the first responder community.

According to Col. Charles H. Schulze, Maryland's state Army aviation and aviation training officer, Project 25 is a public safety communications standard dedicated to ensuring interoperability in communica-

tions. It is designed to ensure fast and secure communications between local, state and federal agencies when protecting the public's welfare.

“We are continuing to improve our ability to support our first responders with our aviation capability,” said Schulze. “Standardization and interoperability are what we're shooting for.”

During an evening training flight, 1st Lt. Bruce E. Hartt, from Company C, 1st Battalion, 169th Medevac, was piloting a Maryland National Guard helicopter and using the new radio to talk to emergency responders on the ground. That wouldn't have been possible even a year ago.

“It's a valuable asset to the Guard because it magnifies our ability to participate in any type of response. It prepares us to do a federal response as well as our state mission because we can now talk to all sorts of assets on the ground like the Coast Guard, FEMA, local police and fire,” said Hartt. “We can participate in all those missions now.”

Hartt and Schulze were able to use the

## Civil Support Team Training

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike R. Smith, National Guard Bureau



*Soldiers and Airmen of the Maryland National Guard's 32nd Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team train aboard the USS Barry March 6 at the Washington Naval Yard during Exercise Capital Spear. Capital Spear included WMD-CSTs from Washington, Delaware, Maryland, Michigan, Virginia, West Virginia, and Indiana.*

# Chinook Unit Deployed to Afghanistan

Members of the Maryland Army National Guard's Company B, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment stationed at Edgewood have been deployed to Afghanistan since August 2007.



Photos Courtesy of the unit





Col. Charles H. Schulze, Maryland's state Army aviation and aviation training officer, checks a system on a new multi-band radio before a training flight. Maryland Guard pilots are leaning to use the new radio which enables them to communicate with local first responders on the ground during an emergency.

one-hour training flight to practice "plain speak" radio skills to communicate with the Coast Guard station in Baltimore and the Maryland Joint Operations Center as well as listen to multiple police and fire calls from both Harford and Montgomery counties.

Schulze said this type of familiarization training with this radio is absolutely critical for his pilots to help them get past what he calls "mic fright".

## Maryland Army Guard Aviators Prepare for Active Hurricane Season

"[The pilots] just aren't sure who they are talking to and they are a little intimidated by what to say and how to say it," said Schulze. "I've tried to tell everybody to just use plain speak and you can't go wrong. We are all learning. They are all professionals."

"In Maryland, we have purchased enough radios to outfit every Black Hawk we have in the Maryland Guard with this P-25 radio," said Schulze who hopes to make that same investment in Maryland's CH-47 helicopter fleet.

With more than 15 named hurricanes forecast to form in the Atlantic basin between June 1 and Nov. 30, Schulze said it is absolutely critical to train Maryland Guard pilots with this new equipment.

According to Schulze, the Maryland Guard has a robust and unique aviation asset that could be called on not only for a state or local emergency, but also for a larger regional or national response.

"Maryland is unique because of its aviation force structure," said Schulze. "It has air ambulance, it has assault, it has cargo and it has support and security—all in one aviation support facility and aviation brigade."

According to Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, a spokesperson for National Guard Bureau, the National Guard is prepared nationwide to respond to terrorist attacks or natural disasters at any time and any where in support of civilian responders.

"We have more than 400,000 Citizen-Soldiers and Citizen-Airmen available to assist with personnel and equipment should any governor request it," said Krenke.

"Maryland is continuing to close the gap in both training and equipment to support those local first responders," said Schulze.

The Maryland Army National Guard is setting the standard in supporting first responders in flood rescue emergencies, he said, and can respond within 30 minutes to an emergency if it is during the duty day and within a few hours if the call comes in the middle of the night.

"The most difficult situation for an Army National Guard aircraft is to find itself supporting first responders who have never done any training with the military or the National Guard and suddenly in an emergency situation where they have to come together and rescue people," said Schulze.

"It's an evolving relationship and an evolving capability," said Schulze. "It's training for the National Guard so that we can be ready and refreshed on how to support those first responders when the time comes."

Continued from page 12

# CIVIL AIR PATROL MARYLAND WING HEADQUARTERS

## West Virginia and Maryland Wings Conduct Joint Search and Rescue Exercise with Maryland Army National Guard

By Lt. Col. Wes LaPre Civil Air Patrol PAO

The West Virginia and Maryland Wings of the Civil Air Patrol joined forces to conduct a multi service, multi disciplined search and rescue exercise (SAREX) from 18-21 April 2008.

Ground teams usually travel to mission locations by van, but when long distances are involved airlift can be requested. The Maryland Army National Guard (MDARNG) had scheduled flight training on 18, 19, and 20 April, the same weekend as this SAREX in West Virginia. "The Army does not conduct airlift operations with tactical rotary wing aircraft because airlift is an Air Force mission. However, mission analysis revealed the distance involved is within the tactical range of the UH60 Blackhawk for an Army air movement operation," explained Col. Charlie Schulze, the Maryland Army National Guard's State Army Aviation Officer.

"Normally the MDARNG conducts

training with its own ground soldiers from the 58th Infantry Brigade Combat Team but that unit is currently demobilizing from Operation Iraqi Freedom. So the CAP SAREX provided an opportunity to move personnel incidental to scheduled training," Schulze added. CAP members, when on an Air Force authorized mission, may fly on Department of Defense aircraft. This makes it possible to support the CAP using tactical rotary wing aircraft and incidental to training.

The Maryland Army National Guard also used the CAP exercise as an opportunity to test the ability to communicate with other government agencies. "After 9-11 and Hurricane Katrina, interoperability was identified as a critical area for all government agencies. We will be using newly installed Project 25 multi-band radios in the UH-60 and we will perform inter-agency aviation operations commensurate with National Response Plan

and the National Incident Management System - Incident Command System," noted spokesman, Lt. Col. Charles Kohler.

In support of this, Schulze and 1st Lt. Nick Kiaunis flew their OH-58 Kiowa helicopter over one of the simulated crash sites on Saturday. This sortie offered an opportunity to use a recently installed GPS moving map display system with capability to quickly switch from aeronautical to street and topographic maps, while using NIMS-ICS plain-speak on CAP VHF radio channels, fulfilling one of the Guard's objectives for their training weekend. This capability, the interoperability of two-way radio training with the Maryland Army National Guard, had not previously existed nor had it been tested until this exercise - perhaps a first in the Nation.

## MEMA Hosts Statewide Storm Drill

### National Level Exercise Simulates A Category 4 Direct Hit

Courtesy of the MEMA Public Affairs Office

On May 6, Maryland emergency managers, state agencies and local first responders participated in a national level exercise to evaluate the State of Maryland's preparedness and planning process before a major storm makes landfall near the Chesapeake Bay.

"Maryland hasn't had a hurricane or tropical storm make direct landfall in at least fifty years", said Maryland Emergency Management (MEMA) Director John Droneburg. "However, we can't rely on past experience when it comes to keeping Maryland citizens safe."

The exercise is hosted by MEMA and involves all state and private organizations represented in the State Emergency Operations Center. Participants include Federal, regional, state and local emergency operations personnel and first responders. The

exercise scenario was produced following the guidance set forth by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP).

"The State of Maryland and local first responders have proven in past exercises—and real world emergencies—that we are ready to respond to any major emergency or disaster", said Droneburg. "We continue to improve and progress our operations with each event."



Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, the Adjutant General of Maryland, and other state agency officials engage in a conference call from the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Fretterd during the Hurricane Exercise.

## MEMA Rallies State Agencies During Nuclear Power Plant Exercise

Story by Quentin Banks, MD Military Department PIO

Every two years, the federal government conducts an exercise to test the emergency response capabilities of each nuclear power plant and the preparedness of the surrounding communities. There are two plants that impact five Maryland jurisdictions should an emergency occur. The first is the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant located in Lusby, Md., and owned by Constellation Nuclear. The second is the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, located in Delta, Pa., and owned by Exelon Energy. This year, the exercise was conducted to test the preparedness of Peach Bottom and its

surrounding communities. There are two Maryland counties located within the plume zone: Harford and Cecil.

The scenario develops at the plant from a normal status to an "Unusual Event" to an "Alert" to a "Site Area Emergency" and finally a "General Emergency." The Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) or his/her representative makes the decisions on protective measures after coordination with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the state of Pennsylvania and the impacted counties using dedicated phone lines.

The decisions are announced in the form of a protective action order.

The emergency protective actions include precautionary measures such as advising folks with livestock to shelter animals and provide them with stored feed and water. The scenario played on April 22 resulted in a situation where a sizable amount of radioactivity was released from the plant. The protective measures included ordering the evacuation of residents in the impacted emergency planning zones and advising farmers within a 50-mile radius to shelter their livestock and provide stored feed and water.





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Maryland Military Department

## Digest

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*Southern Maryland Chapter*, La Plata  
301-934-2066

*Lower Shore Chapter*, Salisbury  
410-749-5331

*Frederick County Chapter*, Walkersville  
301-662-5131

**Maryland Poison Control**  
1-800-222-1222

## Websites

**Maryland Government Website**  
[www.maryland.gov](http://www.maryland.gov)

**Maryland Military Department Website**  
[www.mdmildep.org](http://www.mdmildep.org)

**Maryland Emergency Management Agency**  
[www.mema.state.md.us](http://www.mema.state.md.us)

**Maryland State Employee Central Payroll Bureau**  
[compnet.comp.state.md.us](http://compnet.comp.state.md.us)